

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 201788

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201788

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FOLLOWING REPEAT JERUSALEM 1366 ACTION SECSTATE 25 AUG 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 JERUSALEM 1366

NODIS

FOR EB-ENDERS AND S/P-LEWIS FROM LORD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, UNGA

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S UNGA SPEECH: SECTION ON THE POOREST

1. WE WILL SEND YOU EACH SECTION IN A SEPARATE CABLE AS WE COMPLETE THEM IN ORDER TO GIVE YOU MAXIMUM TIME. THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF THE SPEECH REMAINS THE SAME, EXCEPT THAT TRADE AND COMMODITIES WILL BE SEPARATE SCTIONS AND WIDER PARTICIPATION WILL BE CUT DOWN AND MELDED EVENTUALLY WITH THE CONCLUSION.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE SECTION ON THE POOREST: BEGIN TEXT

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PAGE 02 STATE 201788

THE POOREST NATIONS

ANY STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT MUST DEVOTE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE NEEDS OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES.

THE FATE OF ONE BILLION PEOPLE -- HALF THE DEVELOPING WORLD AND A THIRD OF MANKIND -- DEPENDS ON OUR EFFORTS. IN VAST AREAS OF THIS PLANET, POOR DIETS ROB MILLIONS OF PRODUCTIVE LIVES, PEOPLE DIE YOUNG, PARENTS CONTINUE TO HAVE MANY CHILDREN SO THAT A FEW MAY SURVIVE.

FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS, PER CAPITA INCOME IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES -- ALREADY BELOW MINIMAL STANDARDS FOR DEVELOPMENT -- HAS RELENTLESSLY DECLINED. THEIR EXPORTS ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE LEAST DYNAMIC SECTORS OF WORLD DEMAND. IT IS THEREFORE THESE COUNTRIES, ON THE SLENDER MARGIN OF EXISTANCE, WHICH HAVE BEEN MOST CRUELLY AFFECTED BY THE RISE IN THE COSTS OF OIL, FOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL IMPORTS FOR SURVIVAL AND INPUTS FOR GROWTH.

WHATEVER ECONOMIC ADVERSITY THE REST OF MANKIND ENCOUNTERS THEY SUFFER MOST. WHATEVER PROBLEMS WE HAVE, THEIRS ARE MONUMENTAL. WHATEVER ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES FLOW FROM DECISIONS THAT WE ALL MAKE, AFFECT THEM MOST SEVERELY. IF GLOBAL PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FALTERS, THEY WILL BE SUBMERGED.

THIS CHALLENGE TRANSCENDS IDEOLOGY AND BLOC POLITICS. NO SOCIAL SYSTEM OR PRINCIPLE OF JUSTICE CAN TOLERATE A WORLD IN WHICH BARE SURVIVAL IS THE TOTAL PRE-OCCUPATION OF MILLIONS OF HUMAN BEINGS, IN WHICH THE SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL POTENTIAL OF HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS IS STUNTED, AND IN WHICH WHOLE SOCIETIES PERCEIVE NO HOPE OF PROGRESS FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR CHILDREN. NO GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM HAS MEANING UNLESS THE POOR HALF OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD IS GIVEN A GENUINE OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPROVEMENT. NO INTERNATIONAL ORDER CAN BE CONSIDERED JUST UNLESS ONE OF ITS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES IS COOPERATION TO LIFT THE HORIZONS OF THE POOREST. NOR OVER THE LONG TERM CAN THE VALUES THAT WE CHERISH IN OUR OWN COUNTRIES THRIVE IN A WORLD OF DESPAIR.

THE DUTY TO ASSIST THE POOREST FALLS FIRST ON THE RICHEST. THE
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PAGE 03 STATE 201788

UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES ITS RESPONSIBILITIES. MORE THAN SEVENTY PERCENT OF OUR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE GOES TO LOW-INCOME COUNTRIES. MORE THAN SIXTY PERCENT OF THIS YEAR'S PROPOSED PROGRAMS ARE DEVOTED TO FOOD AND NUTRITION, WHICH ARE OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE POOREST. BUT ALL SOCIETIES IN WHICH THERE IS PROGRESS AND HOPE MUST SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY.

THIS CHALLENGE HAS TWO DIMENSIONS. WE MUST LOOK TO ELEMENTAL

ECONOMIC SECURITY AND THE IMMEDIATE RELIEF OF SUFFERING. AND WE MUST GIVE PREFERENCE TO THESE COUNTRIES' NEEDS FOR FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

FIRST, SECURITY MEANS (BLANK) (COMMENT: FILL IN BLANK--SEE COMMENT BELOW.) LAST NOVEMBER THE UNITED STATES PROPOSED THAT WE ESTABLISH A TRUST FUND IN THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND OF UP TO \$2 BILLION FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF. (COMMENT: WE NEED A SENTENCE REMINDER WHAT THIS FUND IS SUPPOSED TO DO.) ALTHOUGH THIS PROPOSAL MET WITH WIDE SIPPOT, IT HAS BEEN STALLED BY A DISPUTE OVER AN UNRELATED ISSUE -- THE ROLE OF GOLD IN THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM. WE CANNOT LET THIS DELAY CONTINUE. IF WE ALL MAKE A DETERMINED EFFORT TO BREAK THE LOGJAM AT THE IMF MEETINGS NOW UNDERWAY, WE COULD REACH A CONSENSUS ON THE TRUST FUND PROPOSAL BY JANUARY.

SECONDLY, SECURITY MEANS STABLE EXPORT EARNINGS. THE NEW IMF FACILITY THAT WE ARE PROPOSING TODAY CAN PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ECONOMIC INSURANCE FOR THE POOREST. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS THESE COUNTRIES SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONVERT THEIR LOANS FROM THE NEW FACILITY INTO OUTRIGHT GRANTS, TO OFFSET SHARP DECLINES IN EXPORT EARNINGS.

THIRDLY, SECURITY MEANS HAVING ENOUGH TO EAT. THERE MUST BE A DETERMINED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE EFFORT ON FOOD.

-- THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE SET A TARGET OF 10 MILLION TONS OF FOOD AID ANNUALLY. THIS FISCAL YEAR THE UNITED STATES FOOD AID BUDGET WILL PROVIDE ALMOST SIX MILLION TONS OF FOOD-GRAIN -- SIXTY PERCENT OF THE WORLD TARGET, AND A TWENTY PERCENT INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR. OTHER PRODUCERS MUST ALSO PROVIDE THEIR SHARE, AND INCREASINGLY SO. -- ANOTHER PRIORITY IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES MUST BE TO REDUCE THE TRAGIC WASTE OF LOOSES AFTER HARVEST FROM
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PAGE 04 STATE 201788

INADEQUATE STORAGE, TRANSPORT, AND PEST CONTROL. THERE ARE OFTEN SIMPLE AND INEXPENSIVE TECHNIQUES TO RESOLVE THESE PROBLEMS, INVESTMENT IN SUCH AREAS AS BETTER STORAGE AND PESTICIDES COULD HAVE A RAPID SUBSTANTIAL IMPACT ON THE WORLD'S FOOD SUPPLY -- INDEED THEY COULD MATCH THE TOTAL OF ALL THE FOOD AID BEING GIVEN AROUND THE WORLD. THEREFORE WE URGE THAT THE FAO, INCONJUNCTION WITH THE UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND THE WORLD BANK, SET THE GOAL OF CUTTING IN HALF THESE POST-HARVEST LOOSES BY 1985, AND DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO ACCOMPLISH THIS.

FINALLY, SECURITY MEANS GOOD HEALTH AND EASING THE STRAINS OF POPULATION GROWTH. DISEASE RAVAGES THE POOREST COUNTRIES MOST OF ALL AND EXACTS A DEVASTATING ECONOMIC AS WELL AS HUMAN COST. AT THE SAME TIME WE FACT THE STARK REALITY THAT THERE WILL BE TWICE AS MANY PEOPLE TO FEED BY THE END OF THIS CENTURY AS THERE

ARE TODAY. ONE OF THE MOST PROMISING AND EFFECTIVE APPROACHES TO THESE PROBLEMS IS THE INTEGRATED DELIVERY OF BASIC HEALTH SERVICES AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL, COMBINING MEDICAL TREATMENT, FAMILY PLANNING, AND NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION, AND USING LOCALLY TRAINED PARA-MEDICAL PERSONNEL. THE UNITED STATES WILL SUPPORT A MAJOR EXPANSION OF THE EFFORTS ALREADY UNDERWAY IN COOPERATION WITH THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION TO DEVELOP AND APPLY THESE METHODS. I STRONGLY URGE THE HELP OF ALL CONCERNED NATIONS.

SUCH PROGRAMS TO ACHIEVE MINIMUM ECONOMIC SECURITY FOR THE POOREST ARE ESSENTIAL. BUT THEY ARE ONLY PALLIATIVES. WE MUST HELP THEM BREAK OUT OF THEIR PRESENT STAGNATION TOWARD ECONOMIC GROWTH.

THIS MEANS FIRST OF ALL THAT THE POOREST COUNTRIES SHOULD HAVE PREFERENTIAL ACCESS TO CAPITAL ON A LARGE SCALE. THEY HAVE THE LEAST DYNAMIC EXPORTS, BUT THEY LACK THE CAPITAL TO DEVELOP NEW ONES. THEY HAVE THE DIREST NEED FOR FINANCING, BUT THEY HAVE NO ACCESS TO CAPITAL MARKETS AND LITTLE ABILITY TO CARRY GREATER DEBT. (COMMENT: HOW ARE WE GOING TO MEET THESE PROBLEMS?)

EXPANDING FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES IS A CRUCIAL ELEMENT OF ANY STRATEGY FOR GROWTH. IN SOUTH ASIA, TO TAKE AN EXAMPLE, ONE HALF OF ONE PERCENT INCREASE IN FOOD PRODUCTION WOULD ACCELERATE GROWTH BY THE SAME AMOUNT, MAINLY BY FREEING LIMITED IMPORT FUNDS FOR OTHER USES. EXTERNAL FOOD AID CANNOT POSSIBLY FILL THE GAP BETWEEN SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 05 STATE 201788

THEREFORE, THERE MUST BE A GLOBAL EFFORT TO EXPAND THEIR PRODUCTION THROUGH RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND USING THEIR VAST RESERVES OF UNTAPPED LAND, WATER, AND MANPOWER. (COMMENT: THIS NEEDS TO BE MORE SPECIFIC.)

FOR THESE PURPOSES, PRESIDENT FORD IS ASKING CONGRESS FOR AUTHORIZATION TO DOUBLE OUR BILATERAL AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE NEXT YEAR TO \$582 MILLION.

IN ADDITION, THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, TO MOBILIZE NEW CONCESSIONAL RESOURCES FOR THIS PURPOSE. PRESIDENT FORD HAS ASKED ME TO ANNOUNCE THAT HE WILL SEEK AUTHORIZATION OF A DIRECT CONTRIBUTION NEXT YEAR OF \$200 MILLION TO THE FUND -- ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT OTHERS WILL ADD THEIR SUPPORT.

FINALLY, WE URGE THAT BETTER USE BE MADE OF THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION. THIS IS THE PRINCIPAL MULTILATERAL INSTITUTION NOW CONTRIBUTING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE POOREST COUNTRIES. IT HAS GREAT POTENTIAL THAT HAS NOT BEEN FULLY REALIZED. THE UNITED STATES WILL THEREFORE JOIN OTHER

IDA CONTRIBUTORS IN A SUBSTANTIAL REPLENISHMENT OF ITS RESOURCES,
PROVIDED THAT THE OIL EXPORTING COUNTRIES ALSO MAKE A SIGNIFI-
CANT CONTRIBUTION.
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